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DATE: September 23, 2005

PTO IDENTIFIER: Application Number 09/733,752-Conf. #4800
Patent Number

Inventor: Gaines W. Hammond et al.

MESSAGE TO: US Patent and Trademark Office

FAX NUMBER: (571) 273-8300

FROM: EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP

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Attorney Dkt. #: 62898(71589)

PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 5

CONTENTS: Transmittal (1 page)
Response to Interview Summary under M.P.E.P. §713.04 (2 pages)
Certificate of Transmission (1 page)

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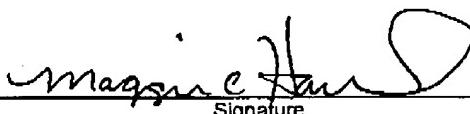
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Application No. (if known): 09/733,752

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Response to Interview Summary under M.P.E.P. §713.04 (2 pages)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number	09/733,752-Conf. #4800
		Filing Date	December 8, 2000
		First Named Inventor	Gaines W. Hammond
		Art Unit	3738
		Examiner Name	B. E. Pellegrino
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	62898(71589)

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<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
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P. 04

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 62898 (71589)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Hammond et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/733,752 GROUP NO.: 3738

FILING DATE: 8-Dec-00 EXAMINER: Brian E. Pellegrino

TITLE: *Facilitating Drainage*

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO INTERVIEW SUMMARY UNDER M.P.E.P. § 713.04

1. In reply to the Interview Summary, Paper No. 9/7/05, mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on 14-Sep-05, for which the period of response expires on 14-Oct-05, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Response.
2. Applicants thank the Examiner for participating in a telephone interview with Applicants' representatives, Robert J. Tosti and Brian M. Gaff, held on 7-Sep-05.
3. Applicants filed a reply to the last Office Action on 15-Sep-05.
4. Applicants' reply to the last Office Action did include a statement of the substance of the 7-Sep-05 interview. Nevertheless, Applicants submit this Response under M.P.E.P. § 713.04 to augment the recordation of the substance of the interview provided in the Interview Summary dated 14-Sep-05 and received after submission of the reply to the last Office Action.
5. During the interview, Applicants' representatives discussed the following:
 - Pending independent claims 10, 19, and 25.
 - Cited reference Devonec et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,876,417).

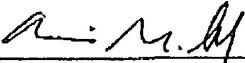
6. As detailed in Applicants' reply to the last Office Action, the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the Examiner related to the failure of the Devonec et al. reference to disclose at least the following claimed attributes:

- a member fastened to the proximal end and slip fit into the distal terminating end;
and
- a connecting segment comprising an elongated body member that includes a proximal end releasably joined to the distal terminating end.

7. A general result of the telephonic interview was that agreement was not reached, but Examiner Pelligrino indicated that Applicants should submit their position in writing in detail for further consideration. Applicants' reply to the last Office Action provides the requested detail.

8. No fee is included with this submission, since Applicants believe none is required. Nevertheless, should any fee be required for this submission to be considered, the Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account number 04-1105.

Respectfully submitted,



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Response (23-Sep-05)
Reply to Interview Summary of 14-Sep-05
U.S. Serial No. 09/733,752
Attorney Docket No. 62898 (71589)
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